

Dr. James P. Thompson, Jnr.

Biography

Dr. James P. Thompson, Jr. is a respected pastor, leader, educator, and community servant whose ministry and leadership have impacted his community for more than four decades. With a firm devotion to preaching and teaching God's Word, he models a life centered on Jesus Christ. Born in Memphis, Tennessee, on July 12, 1953, he and his wife, Lalita, have built a strong family legacy since 1981 as parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents.

In 1984, Dr. Thompson answered God's call to ministry and began serving at Mount Olive Baptist Church under the leadership of the late N. L. Robinson. Over the years, he faithfully served in various roles, including Associate Minister, Youth Minister, and eventually Pastor. Through impactful preaching and steady leadership, he helped lay a strong foundation for future generations of the church while faithfully guiding the congregation until March 2026.

A graduate of the historic Booker T. Washington High School in Memphis, Tennessee, Dr. Thompson earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting from the University of the District of Columbia (formerly Federal City College). He later earned both a Master of Theological Studies and a Doctor of Ministry from George W. Truett Theological Seminary.

In addition to his pastoral work, Dr. Thompson has provided leadership in Christian higher education and civic engagement. He served as Chairman of the Board for Foster College, formerly Southern Bible Institute and College, from 2006 to 2025. He also served as a member of the Board of Trustees at Texas Wesleyan University from 2023 to 2025.

Before entering full-time pastoral leadership, Dr. Thompson built a successful corporate career with Ford Motor Company, Allstate, Xerox, and Unisys, serving in roles related to accounting, financial analysis, and marketing.

In this new season of ministry, Dr. Thompson continues to share the message of Jesus Christ while focusing on helping churches navigate pastoral transition. His unique experience as both an incoming and outgoing pastor has equipped him to offer valuable insight in this critical area of ministry leadership. His Doctor of Ministry dissertation also focused on pastoral succession and transition.

Over the years, Dr. Thompson has also encouraged others through prose and poetry inspired by his faith and life experiences. Above all, he remains committed to his highest aim: pleasing the Lord Jesus Christ.